

S. 2439. A bill to suspend until December 31, 2001, the duty on certain high-performance loudspeakers not mounted in their enclosures; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. Res. 271. A resolution designating October 16, 1998, as "National Mammography Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. DODD):

S. 2436. A bill to require that jewelry imported from another country be indelibly marked with the country of origin; to the Committee on Finance.

LEGISLATION REQUIRING MARKING OF IMPORTED JEWELRY

• Mr. REED. Mr. President, today, I am introducing legislation to require permanent country of origin markings on most imported fashion or "costume" jewelry products. I am joined in this effort by Senator D'AMATO, who founded the Senate Jewelry Task Force with me, as well as Senators INOUE, KERRY, TORRICELLI, and DODD, who I would like to thank for their strong support of the 16,200 Americans employed by our nation's fashion jewelry manufacturers.

Like many sectors of our nation's economy, domestic fashion jewelry manufacturers are all too familiar with the pressures of the new global economy. And, for many years, little attention was paid to the industry by our trade negotiators and other officials. Today, that is changing: The Commerce Department is working with our fashion jewelry makers and has undertaken a competitiveness study of the industry, and our trade negotiators now recognize the needs of America's jewelry manufacturers when they sit down with our trading partners.

Yet, the industry still faces an uphill battle against low-wage importers, who do not have to abide by appropriate environmental standards and other important U.S. laws. For that reason, we are introducing this legislation to require a permanent country of origin label on imported fashion jewelry products so American consumers know where it was made. This is the same labeling requirement we see on thousands of imported products from televisions to tennis shoes. Unfortunately, the current marking requirement for jewelry imports is a hanging tag or sticker, which can be removed, fall-off, or be obscured by price tags.

Consumers deserve better, and this legislation allows them to make an informed choice, in light of the \$524 million worth of fashion jewelry imported

in 1995 alone. Our bill is modeled on the current permanent marking requirement for imported Native American style jewelry products, and it is endorsed by the nation's largest jewelry trade organizations such as the Manufacturing Jewelers and Silversmiths of America and the Jewelers of America.

Mr. President, imported jewelry is a fact of our international economy, but consumers have a right to know where a product is made and hard working American jewelry makers have a right to a level playing field. I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, and I look forward to its consideration by the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the legislation be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2436

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MARKING OF IMPORTED JEWELRY.

(a) MARKING REQUIREMENT.—By no later than the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe and implement regulations that require that all jewelry described in subsection (b) that enters the customs territory of the United States have the English name of the country of origin indelibly marked in a conspicuous place on such jewelry by cutting, die-sinking, engraving, stamping, or some other permanent method. The exceptions from marking requirements provided in section 304 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1304) shall not apply to jewelry described in this section.

(b) JEWELRY.—The jewelry described in this subsection means any article described in heading 7117 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

(c) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term "enters the customs territory of the United States" means enters, or is withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, in the customs territory of the United States. •

• Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, today along with my colleague Mr. REED of Rhode Island I introduce legislation that will require country of origin marking on imported costume jewelry in order to better inform American consumers about the country of origin of their costume jewelry purchases.

The jewelry industry in the U.S. consisted of more than 3500 companies and 55,000 American workers in 1994, with sales totaling in the billions of dollars annually. In 1977 imports of costume and fine jewelry were about 14% of the jewelry sales in the U.S. By 1994 the imported costume jewelry sales reached 26% of all costume jewelry sales, and 50% of all fine jewelry sales. This increase in imports led to a decline in employment in the U.S. jewelry manufacturing industry by 26%. Of course we all favor the advantages that come from foreign competition in the marketplace. And we also favor informed consumers.

Currently, imported jewelry is one of the few products that does not require a country of origin stamp. This bill

will require imported costume jewelry to be stamped in English with the country of origin. This eliminates the problem of removal or loss of adhesive labels or tags that state the country of origin prior to reaching the retail store. In this way we respect the integrity of our American workers by removing any question as to the origin of any costume jewelry purchases. This bill is a reasonable and low-cost response that extends the country of origin marking law to cover a product that should be included.

With the increasing wealth of our country, the sales of jewelry are increasing and those who wish to know the country of manufacture of their jewelry will be easily satisfied by a simple stamp or imprint on these items. This jewelry should be subject to same rules as all other imports. The industry trade group, The Manufacturers, Jewelers, and Silversmiths of America, also support this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this bill as well. •

By Mr. REED:

S. 2437. A bill to require that jewelry boxes imported from another country be indelibly marked with the country of origin; to the Committee on Finance.

LEGISLATION REQUIRING MARKING OF IMPORTED JEWELRY BOXES

• Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation at the request of Rhode Island's jewelry box manufacturers to require a permanent country of origin marking on imported jewelry boxes.

This bill is similar to another piece of legislation I am introducing today to require a permanent country of origin label on imported fashion jewelry items, and it is my hope that this jewelry box bill will be considered in tandem with that legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of this legislation be printed in the RECORD I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2437

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MARKING OF IMPORTED JEWELRY BOXES.

(a) MARKING REQUIREMENT.—By no later than the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe and implement regulations that require that all jewelry boxes described in subsection (b) that enter, or are withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, in the customs territory of the United States have the English name of the country of origin indelibly marked in a conspicuous place on such jewelry boxes by cutting, die-sinking, engraving, stamping, or some other permanent method. The exceptions from marking requirements provided in section 304 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1304) shall not apply to jewelry boxes subject to this section.

(b) JEWELRY.—The jewelry boxes referred to in subsection (a) are jewelry boxes provided for in headings 4202.92.60, 4202.92.90, and

4202.99.10 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 61

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BUMPERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 61, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to extend eligibility for veterans' burial benefits, funeral benefits, and related benefits for veterans of certain service in the United States merchant marine during World War II.

S. 374

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 374, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for hospital care and medical services under chapter 17 of that title to veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart, and for other purposes.

S. 1593

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1593, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act with respect to penalties for powder cocaine and crack cocaine offenses.

S. 1868

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1868, a bill to express United States foreign policy with respect to, and to strengthen United States advocacy on behalf of, individuals persecuted for their faith worldwide; to authorize United States actions in response to religious persecution worldwide; to establish an Ambassador at Large on International Religious Freedom within the Department of State, a Commission on International Religious Persecution, and a Special Adviser on International Religious Freedom within the National Security Council; and for other purposes.

S. 2180

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 2180, a bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to clarify liability under that Act for certain recycling transactions.

S. 2190

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2190, a bill to authorize qualified organizations to provide technical assistance and capacity building services to

microenterprise development organizations and programs and to disadvantaged entrepreneurs using funds from the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 2208

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2208, a bill to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the Agency for Healthcare Policy and Research.

S. 2219

At the request of Mr. KERREY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2219, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain irrigation project property to certain irrigation districts in the State of Nebraska.

S. 2244

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2244, a bill to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to promote volunteer programs and community partnerships for the benefit of national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes.

S. 2266

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2266, a bill to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to exempt State and local agencies operating prisons from the provisions relating to public services.

S. 2295

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BUMPERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2295, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to extend the authorizations of appropriations for that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2352

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2352, a bill to protect the privacy rights of patients.

S. 2432

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2432, a bill to support programs of grants to States to address the assistive technology needs of individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 270

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 270, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate concerning actions that the President of the United States should take to resolve the dispute between the Air Line Pilots Association and Northwest Airlines.

AMENDMENT NO. 3445

At the request of Mr. DODD the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3445 proposed to S. 2132, an original bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 271—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 16, 1998, AS "NATIONAL MAMMOGRAPHY DAY"

Mr. BIDEN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 271

Whereas according to the American Cancer Society, in 1998, 178,700 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 43,500 women will die from this disease;

Whereas in the decade of the 1990's, it is estimated that about 2,000,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, resulting in nearly 500,000 deaths;

Whereas the risk of breast cancer increases with age, with a woman at age 70 having twice as much of a chance of developing the disease as a woman at age 50;

Whereas at least 80 percent of the women who get breast cancer have no family history of the disease;

Whereas mammograms, when operated professionally at a certified facility, can provide a safe and quick diagnosis;

Whereas experts agree that mammography is the best method of early detection of breast cancer, and early detection is the key to saving lives;

Whereas mammograms can reveal the presence of small cancers up to 2 years or more before a regular clinical breast examination or breast self-examination (BSE), reducing mortality by more than 30 percent; and

Whereas 47 States and the District of Columbia have passed legislation requiring health insurance companies to cover mammograms in accordance with recognized screening guidelines: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 16, 1998, as "National Mammography Day"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate programs and activities.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution to designate October 16, 1998 as "National Mammography Day." Since 1993, I have introduced similar measures, and each year the Senate has gone on record in support of the value of mammography by approving this resolution.

The American Cancer Society estimates that 178,700 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 1998, while 43,500 women will eventually succumb to the disease this year. However, despite these horrifying numbers, the cure for breast cancer continues to elude us.

Experts therefore agree that early detection and treatment are a woman's best defenses in the fight against this killer. Mammograms can reveal the